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TOKYO CONVENTION BULLETIN No. 2

THE WORLD'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

Tokyo, October, 1920

AND ITS RELATION AND VALUE TO THE MISSION BOARDS AND OTHER CHURCH AGENCIES

WORLD'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
216 METROPOLITAN TOWER
NEW YORK CITY

President . . . The Rt. Hon. T. R. Ferens, M. P.
Secretary . . . . Frank L. Brown
Treasurer . . . . Arthur M. Harris

TO TOKYO I WANT TO GO. W.S.S.A.

THE WORLD'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

1—A World Event

The World's Sunday School Convention, to be held at Tokyo, Japan, during the first two weeks of October, 1920, is looked forward to by national Sunday-school and missionary leaders as one of the most important of the world gatherings following the war. Tokyo is the gateway of the Orient, a field of vast populations and potentialities for good or ill.

The Convention should bring together representatives of sixty nations and as many denominations.

It is backed in Japan by a Promoting Committee of sixty of Japan's leading men and a Committee representing the missionary and native Sunday-school forces.

Coming at a time when the world is seeking new, yet sure, paths, it will offer a way through religious education for foundationing the future. It should prove a profound force in influencing national policies along lines of righteousness, brotherhood and good-will.

2—Relation to Denominational Plans

The only function of the World's Association is to serve the denominational missionary and other church agencies at home and upon the foreign field. The organization of the Association both in America and abroad provides for denominational representation.

The Tokyo Convention, therefore, is planned with the direct object of projecting and visualizing

for the Orient and the world, the latest developments in religious education and the place of the church school as an agency for character and Kingdom building.

The character of the delegation and of the program will be determined by these considerations.

The Interchurch World Movement has asked that the Convention be used as widely as possible to conserve the purposes of that organization.

3—Delegates

As a fundamental consideration, sight-seers *as such* will be excluded from the delegation. It is realized that the delegates must make a Christian impact upon the Orient. No delegate will be accepted unless thoroughly credentialed by the pastor of the local church, the state or provincial Sunday-school secretary, as well as this Association.

In other words, we are seeking for picked men and women who will make a contribution to the Orient by their standing and character and whose reaction upon the home field will make them valuable lay or professional propagandists for missions.

4—Suggestions to Denominational Boards as to Delegates

Provision will be made in the delegation for:

(a) Secretarial representation from the Missionary, Sunday-school, Educational and other interested church agencies;

(b) A number of young people selected under auspices of the Sunday-school Boards or Candidate Departments of the Mission Boards, to receive through this visitation of the Orient their impressions of the field and people, as a basis for special preparation for missionary service;

(c) Selected members of the faculties of church educational institutions who are to have part in the future preparation of missionaries;

(d) Ministers or laymen selected with reference to their future service in America as special pleaders for missions;

(e) Furloughed missionaries or missionaries on their way to their field of service who should have the method and inspiration coming from the Convention, its institutes and exhibits.

5—Plans for Intensive Study of Fields by Delegates

The following plans will suggest the educational value of the trip from the standpoint of missions:

(a) Each delegate will be furnished with a handbook indicating mission stations of the Orient;

(b) It is proposed to have illustrated lectures given on shipboard showing in graphic form the character of the missionary work in the fields to be visited. These lectures will be given by missionaries, natives and Sunday-school specialists;

(c) At the Convention there will be assembled a complete exhibit of material on religious education from each field, and stereopticon and motion pictures will visualize these activities;

(d) Cooperating Committees of missionaries and native Christians are being organized in each field and at each center, to guide delegates to denominational mission work and to explain such work. It is a point in the agreement with the transportation agency that tour plans must conform to this missionary educational purpose.

6—Tokyo Plans

All available reservations have been made by Thos. Cook & Son, the Convention Transportation Agents, upon steamers of five transpacific lines. The entire space on the EMPRESS OF

(7) The Sunday School and the National Life.

(8) The Sunday School and Christian Internationalism.

For the treatment of these themes, we shall draw upon the World's outstanding Christian statesmen, educators, Sunday-school and church leaders. These men will be selected with reference to their ability to present the particular subjects.

The special features of the Convention will be announced later. They will be an advance upon anything thus far undertaken in World's Conventions.

Following the Convention it is proposed to have some of the chief Convention addresses presented at such centers as Seoul, Shanghai and Manila.

It is also purposed to have a body of men, chiefly strong laymen, visit the principal centers of Japan to give personal testimony before groups of Japanese leaders, as to the value of Christianity.

Address all Convention inquiries to

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216 Metropolitan Tower

New York City